



Associated Press  
Francis Gary Powers—A  
face in the crowd.

## Powers Still Avoids the Public Gaze

### Works On With CIA And Lives Quietly

By United Press International

WASHINGTON.

Four months after he walked to freedom across a Berlin bridge, former U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers remains an obscure figure around Washington — recognized occasionally, talked of more frequently, but always avoiding the public spotlight.

The 32-year-old pilot whose unsuccessful 1960 espionage flight over Russia toppled a summit meeting, has been living quietly in a modern apartment overlooking the Potomac River in suburban Alexandria, Va., generally unnoticed by most of his neighbors.

He is working for the Central Intelligence Agency at duties which are undisclosed but which apparently do not include flying.

He is reported writing a book on his flight, which ended deep inside Russia, about his trial and 21 months in a Soviet prison, and his eventual exchange for convicted Soviet spy Rudolf

Abel. With a few exceptions, Mr. Powers has gone quietly about his business here without publicity since his appearance before a Congressional committee shortly after his return.

The director of the CIA, John McCone, has been attempting to have the agency show up somewhat less in the newspapers than did his predecessor, Allen W. Dulles. All the CIA will say about Mr. Powers is that "he works for us." There still are quite a number of undisclosed aspects of the U-2 flight.

The CIA, on recommendation of a special panel appointed by President Kennedy, gave Mr. Powers full exoneration for his conduct during his flight and at his Soviet trial.

The CIA found he had "lived up to the terms of his employment and instructions."

He was given \$50,000 back pay, and the Internal Revenue Service ruled he could spread the taxes on this over two years.

But no one has ever completely cleared up publicly the mystery of how his plane was brought down.

Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev told the Russian people it was done with "a remarkable rocket."

Mr. Powers in his Senate testimony said he did not know the answer. His first sign of disaster, he said, was when he "heard and felt" an explosion and saw an orange light.

25X1A